

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 12926 061848Z
ACTION EUR-03

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P 061635Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1786

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 12926

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FOR GARRISON FROM MATLOCK

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OGEN
SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. RE ENCLOSURE PROBLEM (STATE 211626), ONE OF OUR CONCERNS HAS BEEN REDUCED (VISIBILITY), BUT OTHERS STILL EXIST. HANSEN IS CHECKING OUT BUILDING STRUCTURE IN REGARD TO WEIGHT, AND WE SHALL REPORT HIS FINDINGS AS SOON AS HE MAKES THEM. EVEN IF CONCERNS REGARDING VISIBILITY AND WEIGHT ARE ELIMINATED, WE STILL HAVE TO FACE PROBLEM OF ENTRY OF LARGE CLASSIFIED SHIPMENT AT TIEM WHEN OUR TRANSPORTATION OF CLASSIFIED MATERIALS IN GENERAL WILL BE VERY HIGH. OBVIOUSLY, ANYTHING WHICH CAN BE DONE TO SCALE DOWN WEIGHT AND BULK OF ENCLOSURE WILL MAKE ALL OUR TASKS EASIER.

2. RE STATE 211626, PARA 2, REPORT ON MARINE CARGO INSURANCE DELEGATION VISIT WILL BE SENT SHORTLY. DELEGATION DEPARTED ON DAY OF EMBASSY FIRE. GERRY HAMILTON, WHO HAD BEEN WITH THE DELEGATION ON EVERY CALL, ACCOMPANIED MINE SAFETY DELEGATION TO DONETSK AND DID NOT RETURN TO MOSCOW UNTIL SEPTEMBER 2. IN GENERAL, SOVIETS WENT THROUGH THE FORM CORRECTLY OF ARRANGING ALL VISITS EMBASSY REQUESTED; THERE
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WAS EXCELLENT TURNOUT, INCLUDING VICE MINISTER IVANOV, AT SKOUG'S COCKTAIL FOR THE DELEGATION. THERE WAS NO COMMITMENT AT ALL, ON SUBSTANCE, HOWEVER, AND THE DELEGATION TOLD IVANOV IN FINAL SESSION IN MFT THAT THEIR MISSION HAD BEEN "EXERCISE IN FUTILITY." WE WILL REPORT IN GREATER DETAIL IN OPEN CHANNEL.

3. RE STATE 207671, PARA 2, SECRETARY BLUMENTHAL'S LETTER
WAS RECEIVED PRIOR TO FIRE AND DELIVERED AT ONCE TO MFT
UNDER COVER OF LETTER FROM SKOUG TO CHIEF OF PROTOCOL OF
MFT, RAKHMANIN, ASKING FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY OF THE LETTER
TO PATOLICHEV. THE LATTER HAS BEEN ON VACATION DURING
MONTH OF AUGUST, HOWEVER, SO HE MAY HAVE JUST RECENTLY BEGUN
GIVING ATTENTION TO OFFICIAL BUSINESS.
TOON

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NNN

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